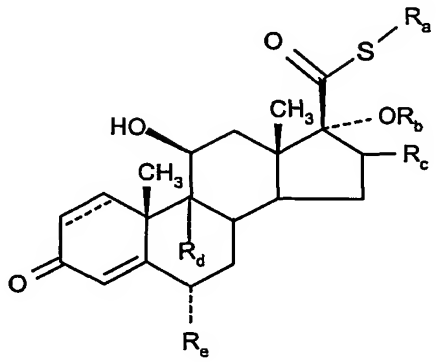
CLAIMS

1. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation comprising:

(i) a therapeutic effective amount of particulate medicament selected from a compound of formula (I)



(I)

or a salt, solvate or physiologically functional derivative thereof, wherein

R_a represents C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

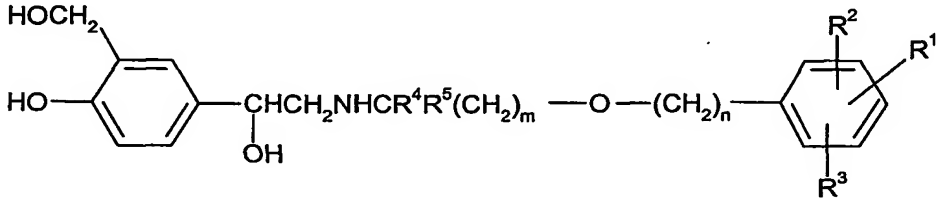
R_b represents -C(=O)-aryl or -C(=O)-heteroaryl;

R_c represents hydrogen, methyl (which may be in either the α or β configuration) or methylene;

R_d and R_e are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or halogen; and

⎓ represents a single or a double bond

and / or a compound of formula (II)



(II)

or a salt, solvate or physiologically functional derivative thereof, wherein:

m is an integer of from 2 to 8;

n is an integer of from 3 to 11;

with the proviso that m + n is 5 to 19;

R^1 is $-XSO_2NR^6R^7$

wherein X is $-(CH_2)_p-$ or C_{2-6} alkenylene;
R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, $C(O)NR^8R^9$, phenyl, and phenyl (C_{1-4}alkyl)-,
or R^6 and R^7, together with the nitrogen to which they are bonded, form a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered nitrogen containing ring,
and R^6 and R^7 are each optionally substituted by one or two groups selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, hydroxy-substituted C_{1-6}alkoxy, $-CO_2R^8$, $-SO_2NR^8R^9$, $-CONR^8R^9$, $-NR^8C(O)R^9$, or a 5-, 6- or 7-membered heterocylic ring;
R^8 and R^9 are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, phenyl, and phenyl (C_{1-4}alkyl)-; and
p is an integer of from 0 to 6;
R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, phenyl, and C_{1-6}haloalkyl; and
R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl with the proviso that the total number of carbon atoms in R^4 and R^5 is not more than 4;

(ii) a propellant selected from the group comprising 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane or 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heterofluoro-n-propane and mixtures thereof; and

(iii) the surfactant [(7,7,8,8,8-pentafluorooctyl)oxy]acetic acid.

2. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation consisting essentially of a compound of formula (I) and / or a compound of formula (II) as described in claim 1, a propellant selected from the group comprising 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane or 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heterofluoro-n-propane and mixtures thereof and the surfactant [(7,7,8,8,8-pentafluorooctyl)oxy]acetic acid.

3. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the particulate medicament is 3-(4-{[6-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl) phenyl]ethyl} amino)hexyl]oxy}butyl) benzenesulfonamide.

4. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the particulate medicament is 6α, 9α-difluoro-17α-[(2-furanylcarbonyl)oxy]-11β-hydroxy-16α-methyl-3-oxo-androsta-1,4-diene-17β-carbothioic acid *S*-fluoromethyl ester.

5. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the particulate medicament is 3-(4-{[6-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl) phenyl]ethyl} amino)hexyl]oxy}butyl) benzenesulfonamide in combination with 6α, 9α-difluoro-17α-[(2-furanylcarbonyl)oxy]-11β-hydroxy-16α-methyl-3-oxo-androsta-1,4-diene-17β-carbothioic acid *S*-fluoromethyl ester.

6. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 5 in which the surfactant is present in the range 0.5% to 10%w/w relative to the medicament.

7. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 6 in which the propellant is 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane.

8. A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 7 which comprises dispersal of a compound of formula (I) and/or (II) as described in claim 1 and the chosen surfactant compound in the selected propellant in an appropriate container.

9. The use of a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 7 for the manufacture of a medicament for administration by inhalation for the treatment of respiratory disorders.

10. The use according to claim 9 in which the respiratory disorder is asthma or COPD.

11. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of respiratory disorders which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 7.

12. A metered dose inhaler containing therein a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 7.

13. The use of the surfactant [(7,7,8,8,8-pentafluorooctyl)oxy]acetic acid in pharmaceutical aerosol formulations according to any one of claims 1 to 7 to enhance FPM and / or improve FPM stability of said formulations.

14. The use of the surfactant [(7,7,8,8,8-pentafluorooctyl)oxy]acetic acid in pharmaceutical aerosol formulations according to any one of claims 1 to 7 to reduce the variability in content uniformity of said formulations.